

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9745
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

S E C R E T LONDON 14348

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJECT: MBFR: NEXT STEPS ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES

REFS: A) STATE 210911, B) STATE 214563

1. RESPONSE TO REF A HAS BEEN DELAYED DUE TO ABSENCE ON VACATION OF RESPONSIBLE BRITISH OFFICIALS. SOME HAVE YET TO RETURN, BUT EMBASSY HAS HAD DISCUSSION WITH ANDREW BURNS, FCO OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR MBFR.
2. BURNS INDICATED THAT UK IS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH US IN NEED TO PUSH AHEAD WITH ASSOCIATED MEASURES, WITH A VIEW TO HAVING A PACKAGE FOR CONSIDERATION AT DECEMBER NATO MINISTERIAL. MOVEMENT AT AN EVEN MORE RAPID PACE WAS IN THEORY POSSIBLE, BURNS SAID, BUT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT PROPOSALS FOR ASSOCIATED MEASURES NOT APPEAR TO BE THE ONLY WESTERN RESPONSE TO THE NEW EASTERN PROPOSALS.

3. BURNS INDICATED THAT THE UK HAS NO PARTICULAR
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PROBLEMS WITH THE QUOTA SYSTEMS FOR GROUND AND AERIAL INSPECTION UNDER DISCUSSION, AND HOPES THAT THE FRG COULD BE BROUGHT TO ACCEPT THE VERIFICATION AND STABILIZATION MEASURES TO WHICH IT HAS OBJECTED.

4. BASIC UK POSITION FOR THE SEPTEMBER 18-19 TRILATERAL IS SET OUT AT LENGTH IN ITS "NEXT MOVES IN MBFR" PAPER

(REF B). BURNS INDICATED THAT FCO OFFICIALS MAINTAINED REASONABLE HOPE THAT AGREEMENT ON DATA ALONG LINE CONTAINED IN THEIR PAPER COULD BE ACHIEVED AT TRILATERAL, AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN NATO, IN ORDER TO PERMIT EARLY INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATION FOR THE NEXT ROUND IN VIENNA. THEY ALSO HOPE FOR SUFFICIENT PROGRESS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE WESTERN RESPONSE TO THE EASTERN INITIATIVE TO ENABLE NEW PROPOSALS TO BE MADE BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF THE ROUND.

5. REGARDING THE REFERENCE IN THE UK PAPER TO A POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT OF THE WESTERN NUCLEAR PACKAGE OFFER OF DECEMBER L975, (OPTION III) BURNS SAID THAT THE FCO UNDERSTOOD THAT WASHINGTON WAS RELUCTANT TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION. IF THIS PROVED THE CASE, HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE UK WOULD NOT BE INCLINED TO PUSH THE MATTER FURTHER.

STREATOR

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NNN

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